

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Thompson  
Serial No.: 09/703,562 Group No.: 3688  
Filed: 11/01/2000 Examiner: Myhre  
Entitled: **Methods and Systems for Applying Rebates to Higher Education**

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS  
FOR ALLOWANCE**

**Mail Stop Issue Fee**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Madam:

The Examiner has provided a Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowability attached to the PTOL-85 form dated December 30, 2008. In the Statement of Reasons for Allowance, the Examiner states the following: “[t]he amendment filed on October 22, 2008 added the limitation that the processors track all debit and credit card purchases from registered merchant.”

In the above comment from the Examiner, the Examiner characterizes the claim amendments and implies that the claims recite his characterization. The claims do not recite the Examiner’s exact language above. However, the claims do incorporate the language the Examiner and Applicant’s Representative agreed to, as acknowledged in the September 18, 2008 Interview Summary. In view of this, applicant respectfully submits that the present claims should be considered allowable due to the recitations that appear therein which were accepted by the Examiner, and not due to the characterizations set forth in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

The Examiner’s Statement was not prepared by Applicant and only contains the Examiner’s possible positions in one or more reasons for allowability. Thus, any

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interpretation with respect to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be imputed to the Applicant.

Dated: January 15, 2009

/J. Mitchell Jones/

J. Mitchell Jones  
Registration No. 44,174

CASIMIR JONES S.C.  
440 Science Dr. Ste. 203  
Madison WI 53711